

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CCO-00 SSO-00 CG-00 SNM-02 L-03 SY-10

DEAE-00 NSC-10 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01

INRE-00 DRC-01 TRSE-00 JUSE-00 /058 W

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O 181558Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY NASSAU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4625

UNCLAS NASSAU 1329

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR PFOR BF

SUBJ: DEVELOPING NARCOTICS CASE

1. SINCE LATE AFTERNOON SEPTEMBER 17, EMBASSY HAS BEEN ASSIST-
ING US COAST GUARD IN PURSUIT OF US VESSEL APPARENTLY ATTEMPT-
ING TRANSSHIP OR SMUGGLE NARCOTICS. COAST GUARD WAS GIVEN
PERMISSION BY GCOB EVENING SEPTEMBER 17 TO PICK UP DRUMS WHICH
VESSEL THREW OVERBOARD INSIDE BAHAMIAN TERRITORIAL WATERS
AFTER FAILING TO ELUDE CG VESSEL.

2. AT LAST REPORT, DRUMS CONTAINED 60 BALES OF MARIJUANA
WEIGHING 200 POUNDS EACH.

3. COAST GUARD STANDING BY AWAITING REQUEST FROM US DRUG
ENFORCEMENT AGENCY TO MAKE ARREST. IN CONVERSATION WITH
CABINET SECRETARY RODNEY BAIN, AMBASSADOR DETERMINED THAT IF
GCOB GIVES PERMISSION TO U.S. CG TO MAKE ARREST WITHIN THREE
MILES, IT WILL BE ON BASIS THAT VESSEL AND CONFISCATED MARI-
JUANA WILL BE TURNED OVER TO GCOB FOR SUBSEQUENT TRIAL AND
PUNISHMENT. GCOB MIGHT ALSO DECIDE FLY BAHAMIAN POLICE OFFI-
CIAL TO ANGUILLA CAY TO BOARD USCG VESSEL AND THEN MAKE
ARREST.

4. COMMENT: EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT GCOB POSITION ON WHO HAS
THE RIGHT TO TRIAL AND PUNISHMENT IF ARREST TAKES PLACE

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WITHIN BAHAMIAN TERRITORIAL WATERS FOR ACTS WHICH ALSO TOOK

PLACE WITHIN BAHAMIAN TERRITORIAL WATERS IS CORRECT. DEPART-
MENT MAY WISH TO CONSULT WITH DEA ON THIS SO THAT AT SUCH
TIME AS DEA AUTHORIZES CG TO MAKE ARREST, AND CG REQUESTS
EMBASSY TO OBTAIN GCOB CONCURRENCE AND/OR PARTICIPATION FOR
PROCEDURE TO TAKE PLACE WITHIN THREE MILES, THERE WILL BE
AGREEMENT ALL ROUND THAT VESSEL, CREW AND CONFISCATED NARCO-
TICS WILL BE TURNED OVER TO GCOB. IF THIS IS NOT SATISFACTORY
THEN WE ASSUME ARREST WILL HAVE TO TAKE PLACE ON THE HIGH SEAS
OR WITHIN US TERRITORIAL WATERS.
SPIERS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 SEP 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973NASSAU01329
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
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30 JUN 2005

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